



King County
Developmental Disabilities Division
King County Interagency Coordinating Council
821 Second Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: 206-296-5214
TTY Relay: 711
FAX: 206-205-1632
<http://www.metrokc.gov/dchs/ddd/>

King County Interagency Coordinating Council

MINUTES

April 10, 2006

Voting Members Present

Kevin Bernadt
Cheryl Buettemeier
Donna Borgford-Parnell
Sandy Duncan
Betsy McAlister
Heather Moline
Susan Sandall
Kari Tanta
Dawn Williams

Employer

KCDDD Board Representative
Boyer Children's Clinic
Seattle King County Public Health
CHAP
Arc of King County Parent Coalition
Region 4 DDD
University of Washington EEU
Valley Medical Center
Early Head Start

Community Members

Maryann Barnes
Nancy Dalrymple
Rhonda Harris
Lindall McIntyre

Birth to Three Developmental Center
DOH
Arc
HSDC

Staff Present

Jan Wrathall
Elaine Goddard

KCDDD
KCDDD

Introductions

Sandy asked each person to introduce themselves to the group.

Review Agenda and Minutes

Jan announced that the Transition Notebook discussion would be tabled until the next meeting.

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. There was a misspelling of Kathy Fortner's name. **04100601** A motion was made and the minutes were approved as corrected.

Community Announcements & ICC Member Reports

- Kevin announced that Robin McWilliam will be coming to Seattle next week for a training session.
- Cheryl announced that Boyer has several staff openings.
- Dawn announced that the Administration for Child and Families is being restructured and that Head Start will report directly to the ACF. There is also a new commissioner for the ACF.
- Susan announced that last month's Parent Map magazine had an article on EI preschool services that featured Boyer, Children's Hospital and the EEU.
- Susan also announced that the Early Intervention Conference will be May 4-6. Registration is still open. Jan has scholarships available for parents and there are scholarships available for child care providers too.
- Betsy announced that the 0-3 bill passed, and encouraged everyone to send their thanks to Representative Mary Lou Dickerson for her sponsorship.
- Kari announced that VMC has several staff openings.
- Rhonda announced that the Arc is hosting an African American gathering on May 5 at Zion Preparatory Academy. She is looking for a few people to help with registration.
- Lindall announced that HSDC is forming summer preschool playgroups that will focus on social skills for kids with speech delays.
- Sandy announced that the last FRC training went very well. It covered the ITEIP data system.

EHDDI Follow-up

Hospitals are doing voluntary infant hearing screenings, and each hospital is reporting their results to the DOH. Nancy Dalrymple brought some statistics from 2005 to share with the group. Overall, King County is doing a good job with screening and getting kids to audiologists. In King County 95% of newborns get screened and 85% of them pass the initial screening. Only .6% of the infants are referred to an audiologist.

DOH has a follow-up process to track down babies who don't pass the initial screening. Though there was initial concern that families would not do a follow-up screening, this does not appear to be a problem in King County. However, it is an issue at the state level. Statewide 30% of referrals are lost. Washington State does not mandate infant hearing tests, though most hospitals do it on a voluntary basis. The Hospital Association is opposed to mandatory screenings due to many issues including liability and cost.

Nancy said that DOH has a Hearing Resource Guide that can be found online at www.doh.wa.gov/ehddi. Anyone with additional questions can contact Nancy at nancy.dalrymple@doh.wa.gov.

On another note, Nancy said that the Cystic Fibrosis screening started on 3/14 and they have had 1 positive case.

Head Start Update

Dawn reported on the second meeting of the Head Start/Part C/Schools, etc. collaboration. ECAP and CCR also attended the meeting. The group discussed issues around getting kids into Early Head Start. There is currently no county-wide system to identify kids for Early Head Start. County wide coordination is needed. To begin efforts a brochure describing services is being updated and will be distributed.

Dealing with challenging behaviors in young children is a growing issue. There is uncertainty whether the problem is due to a lack of social skills or an increase in children with disabilities. Autism diagnoses have increased significantly over the last several years. Families and teachers can call on mental health consultants for help, but sometimes they offer conflicting theories. Parents and kids need more hands-on help and structure. Kevin said that the Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing is looking for professionals or leaders who are willing to work with ODHHS on mental health issues. It was agreed that mental health and behavioral issues might make a good topic for a future KCICC meeting.

Dawn said that the group also discussed child-care staffs' need for more training in handling children with significant disabilities. Green River Community College has a good program.

The next Head Start meeting will be in June, and the group will discuss the ideal referral program.

Natural Environments

Jan said that King County is continuing to push for services in natural environments. Per federal requirements, the state needs to be at 65% natural environments by the end of 2007. Last September the county received additional State money with the condition that services increase in natural environments. The County has given 5 \$10,000 grants to agencies to help them implement natural environments. The county is also collaborating with Pierce, Snohomish and Yakima Counties to bring in speakers and training on natural environments. The first speaker will be Robin McWilliam on April 17, who will do a hands-on session on routines-based interviews and other techniques that work in natural environments. Jan will report on the session at the next KCICC meeting.

In addition, KCDDD has formed a leadership team which includes participants from several providers. The team will evaluate evidenced-based practices in order to establish what natural environments should look like in King County. Additional trainings will be brought in to help build skills and communicate expectations to providers.

Jan introduced a video tape with Mary Beth Bruder who is an expert on early intervention in natural environments. Ms. Bruder cited research which indicates that one factor that strongly relates to a family's success is their own feeling of competence. She said that some service

delivery methods may undermine family confidence and reduce their effectiveness in helping their child. She encourages providers to allow families to take the lead in working with their child and supporting their efforts rather than "telling them how to do it". Building confidence in families will build competence and will greatly improve the child's chances for success. Ms. Bruder also explained that determining what activities are important to the family and incorporating the family-identified activity settings into the child's learning activities can strengthen a child's capabilities and promote new competencies.

Jan said that she will bring other resources to share with the group at future meetings. Some providers have requested M'Lisa Sheldon.

Staff Report

Jan passed out results from the 2005 ITEIP survey. Results include several pages of comments by parents. Awareness of EI services continues to be an issue. The KCICC Action Team is addressing public awareness, and plans to develop a campaign to reach the community. The group is especially interested in reaching out to ethnic communities and has decided to start with the Spanish, Vietnamese and Somali communities. They want to make sure materials are as culturally relevant as possible, and not simply a translation of English materials. In addition, KCDDD will do "bus campaigns" for both EI services and adult services.

Next Meeting

The next KCICC meeting will be July 10, 2006, from 9:30 am - Noon at WorkSource in Renton, Conference Room Q.